

City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ)
Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)
Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2015
Downtown Library Large Conference Room

I. Meeting called to order at 5:35 P.M.

Present: Steve Behnke (JCOS Chair), Tim Felstead (CBJ Liaison), Ben Haight (Planning Commission), Amy Skilbred, Darrell Wetherall, Greg Smith, Clint Gundelfinger (JCOS Secretary)

Visitors: Jim Penor (CBJ Department of Public Works Solid Waste Coordinator)
Michele Elfers (CBJ Department of Engineering)

II. Agenda Changes – Place Green Team under Committee Reports.

III. Minutes of the March 11, 2015 meeting approved.

IV. Public Participation – Randy Brown

V. Action Items

A. CBJ Recycling Initiatives – Jim Penor, the Solid Waste Coordinator from the CBJ Public Works Department gave a presentation regarding current CBJ recycling initiatives. Mr. Penor presented the following categories of plan steps to assist in extending the life of the landfill by preserving landfill capacity and growing and improving Juneau's waste programs; these categories and associated items were discussed by Mr. Penor and JCOS:

1. Purchase and Install Higher Capacity Recycling Baler (Summer 2015)
 - a. Promote institutional recycling – schools, BRH, State (@30 yards per day cardboard), large commercial, etc.
 - b. Explore partnering with grocers for drop box recycling
 - c. Explore requiring use of recyclables in CBJ facilities/contracts (require vendors at events to use recyclables)
 - d. Continue to support the privately run Pacific Waste curbside recycling program (@700 tons per year are kept out of the landfill)

The old baler was stagnating the recycling program. The new baler is out to bid and should be up and running in November 2015. Amy Skilbred asked what a baler does to which Mr. Penor gave a brief explanation.

2. Expand Hazardous Household Waste Program Use Area
 - a. Move Salt Storage to Public Works Shop at 7 mile
 - b. Increase "Haz Bin" storage space and availability to public
 - c. Pursue haz waste re-use match making (similar to Freecycle)

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- d. Allow for bulk storage of haz waste, more efficient disposal, recycling (allows for waiting to time markets for best price which equates to cost savings)

Haz waste collection has gone from seven events per year from an outside collector to a facility that is open three days per week every week. This increase in waste collection periodicity allows for management of waste streams which subsequently allows for cost reductions. Now includes electronics. There has also been a marked reduction in costs since CBJ is no longer shipping haz waste collectively due to diversifying waste streams and engaging in waste exchange.

- 3. Public Outreach and Education Program
 - a. Educate community about existing programs
 - b. Set and promote community waste reduction/diversion goals
 - c. Involve kids and schools
 - d. Trash mascot
 - e. Partner with business community to create branding/promotional program(s)

Launching of these actions are depending on the implementation of the new bailer.

- 4. Evaluate and Renew Hazardous Waste and Recycling Contracts
 - a. Recycling Center – currently CBJ contracts with WMI at the landfill
 - b. HHW – CBJ contracts with PSC for management and disposal at CBJ owned facility
 - c. Consider co-location of both programs at HHW facility
 - i. one location for public
 - ii. greater flexibility in determining hours of operation
 - iii. one contract, ensuing efficiencies
- 5. Create Food Composting Ad Hoc Committee
 - a. Large food generators (restaurants, grocers, institutions) and CBJ
 - b. Technical assistance (CBJ and cooperative extension)
 - c. Local source of high quality topsoil
 - d. Consider composting of some wood waste

There is a need for taking a look at the feasibility of food composting. JCOS will include this topic in a future meeting.

B. Airport Sustainability Master Plan – Inquire with Bob Deering as to ideas on how to respond and determine timeframe for comments.

C. Review on Feedback to Building Advisory Committee – no new information at this time.

D. Web Page Update – need to put current JCOS members on website.

VI. Information Items

A. City Liaison Report - Beth McKibben and Tim Felstead went with a group to Utah for an electric vehicle workshop with the outcome to plan for an initiative to promote electric vehicle use in Juneau.

B. Items up for Assembly Action - None discussed.

C. Committee Reports

i. Solid Waste /Bio-solids – See above Action Item regarding CBJ Recycling Initiatives. Michelle Elfers joined the meeting to provide a bio-solids update. Since the presentation to JCOS last Fall the following actions have occurred:

1. a memo sent from CH2M Hill regarding a project cost estimate of \$20 million
2. a memo has just been finalized regarding analysis of a centrifuge to dewater bio-solids instead of the current system showing the centrifuge system does not pencil out
3. site visits looking at different dryer options were conducted and those systems looked effective
4. site visits of different furnace systems showed that those systems were not as ubiquitous as we were originally led to believe; currently looking at different options
5. a meeting with the Utility Advisory Board took place regarding composting and gasification

Ms. Elfers stated that she would revisit with the JCOS within a couple of months for another update. Darrell Wetherall asked what it was about the furnace systems that were not working. Ms. Elfers responded that there were problems with the designs and materials, the air to air exchangers, and that in general the technology is just not really developed enough yet.

ii. Energy – CBJ Assembly passed ordinance for the electrification of Juneau transportation. April 22, 2015 workshop session set for energy plan discussion.

iii. Outreach/Accountability – Clint Gundelfinger will take a look at the status of the JCOS Facebook page and report back next meeting.

iv. Green Team – no new information at this time.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.